

Branch Committee Meeting

Thursday 22nd March 2007

MINUTES

Present

Tim Teasdale (Treasurer), Tracey Anderson (Secretary), Carol Watts (committee member), Linda Teasdale (committee member), Matt Patton (member)

Apologies were received from Lynne Moores (Chair) and Lorna Kadobinskyj (committee member).

Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

Tim is still to check how to handle OUSET donations.

Action: Tim

There were no other matters arising. The minutes were approved.

Correspondence

None since the last meeting.

OUSET donations

Tim reported that very little had been collected since the previous report.

Events

Tracey had found some information about the Cowley Carnival. The date is Sunday 1st July, very close to the June picnic. With that and the difficulty of meeting people at such an event, it was considered not really suitable for an OUSA organised gathering although it might be useful for a newsletter filler.

Tracey is still to contact Newbury and Banbury branches to invite them to field teams for the bowling event. Suggested contacts were Ali Page (Banbury) and Russell Smithers (Newbury).

Action: Tracey

Someone in the Banbury branch had already investigated visits to the Hook Norton brewery. Weekends get booked up very quickly, so the date needs to be advertised in the newsletter as far in advance as possible.

Daytime events in the week were discussed at some length. It was generally agreed that they might be a good way of encouraging people to meet who are otherwise unable or unwilling to meet in the evening. Tracey is to investigate a venue (examples were the new coffee shop in Didcot's Orchard Centre, a family friendly pub, Millets Farm or Cogges Farm). A suggested date is early July, with the intention of advertising it in the next newsletter as a trial, and running more if it is successful.

Action: Tracey

Newsletter

The next newsletter will be with members in early- to mid-June, and so needs to be at OUSA office by mid-May. Tracey made a call for articles.

Web site

Tim reported slow but steady progress on the web site. Tracey is to send the mini-review that Lynne wrote for the play for inclusion on the web site. Carol suggested including more photos.

Action: Tracey

Tracey is to remind members via QuickNews and First Class about the web site.

Action: Tracey

OUSC meeting report

Tracey attended the OUSC meeting on 14th March. Of most interest was the breakout session where means and methods of widening participation were discussed for feedback to Walton Hall.

OUSA Conference

For the second year running, OAW branch is sending the full entitlement of four delegates.

Carol proposed a motion that might be put forward to Conference next year: it seems that residential schools are being cut, especially in the Business School, and this is seen by students generally as a Bad Thing. The motion would be along the lines of urging the University to re-think and reverse its current policy of cutting residential schools. Clearly this needs further discussion.

Next meeting

Thursday 26th April at Rosie O'Grady's, Park End Street, Oxford; committee meeting to start at 7.30pm, social meeting to start at 8pm.

Any other business

With reference to the search for back-up venues for our monthly meetings, it appears that the Retreat (the closest pub to Rosie's) has a blues/jazz evening on Thursdays and so would be too noisy to be able to hold a meeting.

The meeting was closed at 8.25pm.